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Dated: February 27, 2006

Signature:

*Norman Green*  
(Norman Green)

Attorney Docket No.: 564462006600  
Client Docket No.: D1440-2US  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Mark MADDEN et al.

Application No.: 09/751,299

Confirmation No.: 8629

Filed: December 28, 2000

Art Unit: 1656

For: METHODS FOR PRODUCING ALPHA-SUBSTITUTED CARBOXYLIC ACIDS USING NITRILASES AND STRECKER REAGENTS (AMENDED)

Examiner: Chih Min Kam, Ph.D.

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### RCE RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Advisory Action, mailed December 01, 2005, and the Final Office Action mailed June 30, 2005 ("the final OA"), Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and consideration of the remarks set forth herein. A Notice of Appeal was filed November 30, 2005; thus, a response was initially due January 30, 2006. Applicants herein submit a petition for a one month extension of time to February 28, 2006 under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, with the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed.

This response is accompanied by a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Thus, the finality of the outstanding final office action will be withdrawn and Applicants are entitled to have this submission entered and considered on the merits. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 15 of this paper.

The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal letter;
- Fee Transmittal;
- Petition for a 1 Month Extension of Time;
- Return Receipt Postcard.